

Appl. No. 10/825,166

Reply to Office Action of July 29, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means comprising:

a strip of plastic of width five or more feet and having a specific gravity of one or less; and

a plurality of transverse hold down means, either integral with or ~~attached~~ fixed to the strip of plastic, running substantially the entire width of the strip of plastic and spaced between one and five feet apart.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic is polyethylene.

4. (Original) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic is a tough material

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capable of withstanding the abrasive action of active water and sharp rocks.

5. (Currently amended) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plurality of hold down means are ~~transversely attached~~ tubes filled with any of a variety of heavier than water materials.

6. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plurality of hold down means are composed of sand filled hot melt glue.

7. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a plurality of gas release ports in the plastic strip located midway between the transverse hold down means, and spaced between one and four feet apart in the direction of the width of the plastic strip.

8. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 7 wherein the gas release ports are slits or small holes.

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9. (Previously presented) An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 8 wherein the slits are about three inches long and positioned so as to be not substantially parallel to the width of the plastic strip.

10. (Currently amended) A weed suppression means for use in irrigation and drainage ditches, comprising:

a strip of plastic of width adequate to span the ditch and of length appropriate for ease of installation; and

a plurality of transverse, flexible, hollow plastic tubes, either integral with or fixed to the strip of plastic and positioned across ~~attached along~~ the width of the strip of plastic, spaced about every three feet and fillable with sand, cement, aggregate or other material adequate to hold the plastic strip in close proximity to the contour of the ditch.

11. (Previously presented) A weed suppression means in accordance with claim 10 wherein the specific gravity of the plastic strip is greater than 1.